Thurston Coalition for Women’s Health  
February 18, 2014  
1:00PM – 2:30PM  
Meeting Notes

Outcomes:  
To share good news and progress on women's health issues that are the focus of the Coalition  

To review relevant Women’s Health Data  

To update the Coalition on the work of the subcommittees in the past quarter


Welcome
  • Introductions and Good News Round

Progress and Coalition Action

Women’s Health Data Update – Questions/Discussion

Mary Ann O’Garro presented a data update focused on Coalition priorities. To access this data presentation please go to the Coalition webpage at: http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/personalhealth/womenchildren/coalitionforwomenshealth.html and look under the meeting data and meeting handouts.

Questions/Comments about Data
  • At future meetings is it possible to have data?  Yes.  
  • Is it possible to look at these figures for LGBTQ women?  What does suicide, sexual assault look like for this group in our county?  We may be able to look at state numbers for this but the county numbers may be too small to release.  
  • Can we look at this data and the trends over time?  Yes, that is possible.  
  • How is the low income reported on this data?  The Healthy Youth Survey uses self-reported data that is linked to items asking about food insecurity in the home.

Coalition Priorities Areas of Action for 2014

We’ve identified our top two Coalition priorities as 1) Violence 2) Behavioral Health.  The third Coalition priority is to sustain and build the capacity of the
coalition. During our past discussions the issue of poverty and how that effects women and girls has also been of interest. Members asked if there are areas within these priorities that they have ideas for collaboration or discussion. Below summary statements of the discussion are captured.

Violence
- Importance of including men in prevention activities.
- Importance of using inclusive language- including the trans* community/helping all genders fit
- How do we get to the “politics” of women’s lives-the everyday actions/habits/experiences that women have?
- Importance to make this work a foundational piece of your work no matter who you serve.
- Look at the gap analysis of what is being done and where we can make an impact.

Behavioral Health
- So little said about this area by our discussion today but so integral to the disparities that exist.

Coalition Building
- Important to use inclusive language and include all
- Supporting the Thurston Thrives Youth Resiliency and Economy Teams as they go forward with their work
- Cross work with other existing coalitions and bringing in the gender perspective to the work being done in other groups.
- Looking at the “root causes” of the work we are doing
- Is there an initiative that each organization can take on from their unique perspective?
- We work on prevention here but can we focus to work from all sides of a problem?

Coalition Mission / Elevator Speech Development
Communications: 2014 Emphasis and Subcommittee Update

The Communications Subcommittee has been working on two items that were brought forward by members in our October 2013 meeting: creating an elevator speech to talk about our work with others and planning a training on gender-responsiveness in the community.

This Subcommittee meets on a monthly basis and welcomes all from the Coalition membership to attend. Please look for an email soon with them scheduling their next meeting in March. To learn more contact Danielle Koenig at: DKoenig@thurstontogether.org
The elevator speech is underdevelopment. (You can find a copy of what has been drafted on the webpage under the Meetings section)  
http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/personalhealth/womenchildren/coalitionforomenshealth.html

The subcommittee welcomes feedback on this! Please let us know what works for you and what does not seem to fit.

The subcommittee is also working on designing the training and needs feedback from the Coalition. Please answer the following questions by Wednesday, February 26th. You should have received this via email on Thursday Feb. 19th, if not please contact Kateri wimsetk@co.thurston.wa.us

Help us design the best “gender responsiveness” training!

Goal: A training to help you be an ambassador for explaining “gender responsiveness” and improving practices. Please help us make sure the topic is the most useful for the coalition by answering these questions.

1) What would be the audience best served in your world?
   - Co-workers, fellow volunteers, etc.
   - Adult clients
   - Youth clients
   - Other: ______________________________

2) What focus/topic would be most useful to you?
   - Gender responsiveness in the workplace (facilities, practices, work-life balance, etc.)
   - Gender-responsive adult programs and services
   - Gender-responsive youth programs and services
   - Gender roles

3) Anything else useful for us to consider? __________________________________________________________

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OWH Updates

- The Evaluation Team for the Girls Connection Study is scheduled to attend a National Evaluator’s Meeting in mid-April sponsored by the Office on Women’s Health.
- We are scheduled for a Site Visit from our Grant Officer sometime this spring, also possibly in April. We will let you know when the dates are finalized.

Meeting Evaluation

Adjourn